



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Preventing
environmental
damage from
hazardous waste,
and restoring
contaminated
sites for all
Californians.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, November 2007

Proposed Soil Clean-up at the Former Davis Chemical Site



Photo of the rectangular shed along the southwestern boundary of the Site

A draft plan to clean-up contaminated soil at the former Davis Chemical Company facility (Site) is available for public review and comment. The Site is an approximately 1/3-acre commercial property located at 1550 North Bonnie Beach Place in Los Angeles. The draft plan, called a Remedial Action Plan, or RAP, explains how the soil, which is contaminated with volatile organic compounds primarily tetrachlorethene (PCE) and trichloroethene (TCE), will be cleaned up.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD November 20, 2007 to January 4, 2008

A 30-day public comment period is being held for your comments to the draft Remedial Action Plan and draft Notice of exemption. We invite you to review and submit your comment during this time to the proposed removal of impacted soil at the Site.

Open House will be held on December 12, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.
the Public Meeting to follow at 6:30 p.m.
at El Sereno Library, Community Room
5226 South Huntington Drive, Los Angeles

The open house will include poster displays and handouts. It is an opportunity to meet and talk informally with the staff from our agency and others. During the public hearing, written and oral comments will be accepted.

For information on accessibility and to request reasonable accommodations, please contact Leticia Hernandez: (714) 484-5488 or 1-866-495-5651, and press 4 twice, at least one week before the meeting.



Not a risk to the public

There is **no** immediate health risk to the public because the Site is unoccupied and fenced to restrict access to unauthorized personnel.

We are the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). As a department within the California Environmental Protection Agency, our role is to protect public health and the environment. We are overseeing the investigation and clean-up of the Site.

Site location and history

The Site is located in a light commercial and industrial area of East Los Angeles. A rectangular shed, containing office space, is built into the concrete retaining wall located along the southwestern boundary of the Site parallel to North Bonnie Beach Place. The remainder of the Site is vacant with the western portion covered by concrete slabs, in the middle of which is a small raised brick platform. The northeastern portion of the Site is unpaved and currently covered with vegetation. Light industrial and automotive businesses are near the Site. In addition, there is a residence located on an adjacent property uphill and to the south-southeast of the Site.

From 1949 until approximately November 1990, Davis Chemical operated at the Site, recovering acetone from wastes associated with polyester resins. Davis Chemical also recycled and transported wastes associated with solvents. Betterbilt Chemicals (Betterbilt) operated at the Site from August 1, 1990 until October 23, 1990. Betterbilt's operations included fuel-blending activities and recovering acetone from waste polyester resins. Betterbilt also acted as a hazardous waste transporter. Currently, the Site is unoccupied and no operations are conducted.

Chemicals found at the Site

Investigations performed at the Site found elevated levels of PCE, TCE, and their breakdown products including cis-1,2-dichloroethene, 1,1-dichloroethene, and 1,2-dichloroethane in the soil vapor. Soil vapors are gases that form in the soil when chemicals evaporate.

How we plan to clean the Site

Our proposal includes:

- Removal and on-Site stockpiling of contaminated soil from the "hot spot" located from the southeastern corner of the Site. The removal is estimated to include an approximately 30-foot by 20-foot area, to a depth of approximately 15 feet below grade surface
- The installation of a soil vapor extraction (SVE) system in the stockpiled soil and in the subsurface soil throughout contaminated portions of the Site. This system is made up of SVE wells connected to granular activated carbon (gac) filters and will

remove the soil vapor from the soil

- Vapors from the SVE system will be monitored to track the clean-up progress at the Site for about 2 to 4 weeks
- Depending on the results of the stockpile soil sampling, the treated stockpiled soil will be tested. If it can be spread on-Site or should be taken off-Site for disposal under appropriate regulatory criteria
- A post-clean-up Human Health Risk Assessment will be performed to confirm that the clean-up goals have been met
- The schedule for clean-up activities has not been set. The community will be notified of the schedule prior to the start of the activities. Clean-up activities, the installation of the SVE wells and operation of the SVE system, are anticipated to last approximately 6 to 12 months.

Ensuring public health & environment is protected

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC is responsible for reviewing the potential health and environmental risks of the proposed work. We studied the possible effect of the clean-up on the environment. For example, we looked at whether removal and hauling will disturb wildlife or habitat, cause dust pollution, or interfere with traffic patterns, etc. We determined that the proposed clean-up would not have any significant negative effect on the environment. The study and the conclusion are described in a Draft Notice of Exemption that is available for review and comment during the same period as the draft RAP.

Dealing with dust and traffic

The following actions will be implemented during this process to ensure public safety and minimize dust:

- Installing temporary fencing around the site with windscreens for security and dust control
- Driving all vehicles at slow speeds while on the property
- Spraying of work areas with clean water to control dust
- Securing trucks with covers before they leave the site
- Truck tires entering and existing the site will be brushed to remove soils and debris
- Monitoring the air at the site to ensure the amount of dust stays at safe levels.

Where to find Site related documents

Copies of the DTSC proposed Draft Remedial Action Plan, proposed CEQA Notice of Exemption and other background information can be reviewed at the following locations:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630
Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please contact the File Coordinators at (714) 484-5337 or (714) 484-5336 to make an appointment.

City Terrace Public Library
4025 East City Terrace Drive,
Los Angeles, CA 90063
Telephone number: (323) 261-0295
Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays: 11 am – 6 pm
Wednesdays and Thursdays: 11 am – 8 pm
Fridays and Saturdays: 11 am – 5 pm
Closed on Sundays

How to submit comments

The public comment period will begin on November 20, 2007 and end on January 4, 2008 during which time you may provide us with your comments and/or questions on the proposed remedial excavation plan. All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by January 4, 2008 and sent to:

Safouh Sayed, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, California 90630-4732
E-mail: ssayed@dtsc.ca.gov

For more information

If you have questions regarding the Site, please contact either of these people at our agency:

Safouh Sayed, Project Manager at (714) 484-5478 or ssayed@dtsc.ca.gov

Leticia Hernandez, Public Participation Specialist, at (714) 484-5488 or the toll-free number 1-866-495-5651 or e-mail lhernand@dtsc.ca.gov

For Media Inquiries

For media questions, please contact Ms. Jeanne Garcia, DTSC Public Information Officer at (818) 551-2176 or email jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to hearing impaired individuals

You can get information by using the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask to speak to Leticia Hernandez, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5488 or the toll-free number 1-866-495-5651, press 4 & again 4.

Former Davis Chemical Site Los Angeles, California

____ Please **add** me to the mailing list

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (optional): _____ Fax (optional): _____

Comments (attach additional pages if needed):_____

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, typical of notebook paper. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

Our mailings are used only for the keeping you informed of our activities. We do not routinely release our mailing lists to outside parties. However, they are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.



Leticia Hernandez
Public Participation Specialist
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